



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Sequoia and Kings Canyon
National Parks

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Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

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Tragic Deaths of Horses and Mules

Three Rivers, CA – Seven mules and two horses owned by the National Park Service, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, have died due to a failure in the water system at a remote winter pasture in the Pixley National Wildlife Refuge. The winter pasture is located approximately 35 miles south of Tulare and 45 miles north of Bakersfield in the San Joaquin Valley, California. Two additional animals, a horse and a mule, have been under the care of a veterinarian since the incident. The cause of the incident is under investigation.

Superintendent Karen Taylor-Goodrich of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks issued the following statement:

“This is a tragic loss for us. These animals were part of our team and a vital part of park operations. We are heartbroken about what happened and will be investigating this incident thoroughly.”

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SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, which lie side-by-side in the southern Sierra Nevada in central California, serve as a prime example of nature's size, beauty, and diversity. With the world's largest trees (by volume), grand mountains, rugged foothills, deep canyons, vast caverns, and the highest point in the lower 48 states, it is a place that attracts 1.6 million visitors a year from across the U.S. and the world. Visitor activities vary by season and elevation. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/seki or call 559-565-3341.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.